**Reading**

A 19-year-old college student, who thought she’d won the $150 million jackpot last week, has been left “absolutely heartbroken” after realizing an error invalidated the ticket. Rachel Kennedy and her boyfriend, Liam McCrohan, were stunned when the numbers they regularly bet on (6, 12, 22, 29, 33, 6, 11) came up in the Mega Jackpot.

Kennedy had played the same numbers for five weeks in a row and had a direct debit set up to automatically play the numbers each week. If the numbers matched up, she would receive a notification on her phone saying so. Last Friday, she received such a notification.

Had Kennedy won the lottery, she would have become one of the richest women in the U.S. But these dreams were dashed when she learned the ticket purchase had actually not gone through due to insufficient funds in her account.

“At first, I called my boyfriend Liam and my mom into the room, and they couldn’t believe it either. So, I was like, ‘Oh my God! I need to call the Lottery Committee ASAP,’” Rachel said. “I called thinking I’d just won $150m, but they said, ‘Yeah, you’ve got the right numbers, and had there been enough funds in your account, the payment would have gone through… but there wasn’t, so it didn’t.’”

“I was over the moon when I thought I had won, but when I found out I hadn’t… I guess I came crashing back to earth.” Rachel said they were all “absolutely heartbroken”, and now thinks of her usual weekly numbers as “unlucky”. She said, “If I ever play the lottery again, I’ll definitely use different numbers”.

**Vocabulary**

*Match the words on the left with their meanings on the right.*

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| 1. jackpot | a) extremely shocked |
| 2. invalidated | b) the sale was not successful |
| 3. stunned | c) not enough |
| 4. insufficient | d) the most valuable prize in a game or contest |
| 5. the payment didn’t go through | e) really, really happy |
| 6. ASAP | f) stopped from being officially acceptable |
| 7. over the moon | g) as soon as possible |

**Identification**

*Underline the conditionals in the article.*

**Practice**

*Using the conditional, write about what would have happened if the payment had gone through.*

Had the payment gone through, Rachel would now be a multimillionaire. She’d probably be on a yacht somewhere in the Pacific Ocean, cruising along the coast without a care in the world. At least, that’s what I would do if I ever won $150 million!

**Quiz**

1. If I were you, I would tell / would have told (*to tell*) her straightaway.
2. If I were you, I wouldn’t do / wouldn’t have done (*to not do*) that.
3. If I'd been there, things would have been (*to be*) different now.
4. If I'd known, I would have helped (*to help*).
5. If you run into her, tell / would you tell (*to tell*) her to call me?
6. If he’s going, there will be / there’s going to be (*to be*) be trouble.
7. Even if it took all day, would you still want to do it?
8. Were you to fail, what would you do (*to do*)?
9. If I'd known the party was gonna be so lame, I would have stayed (*to stay*) home.
10. Hey, if you’re still home, would you grab the keys?
11. If you'd been there, would you have helped (to help)?
12. Were they to offer / offering (*to offer*) you the job, how would you feel?